The People's Korea

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President Kim Il Sung Inspects Major Construction Sites

President Kim Il Sung on Apr. 4 went round major objects of construction in Pyongyang.

He was accompanied by Kang Hui Won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Committee of the WPK and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, and other officials concerned.

Making a round of construction sites in Kwangbok Street, Rungrado Stadium, Rungra Bridge, Yanggakdo Football Stadium, International Cinema House and other major structures, he acquainted himself down to details with the construction processes and expressed deep satisfaction with the fact that the construction was progressing apace thanks to the devoted labour of People's Army soldiers, builders and their helpers.

Saying the capital will turn into a more magnificent and beautiful city when the construction of major objects has been finished, he gave programmatic teachings which would serve as a guideline in completing the construction projects at an early date and building the city of Pyongyang more wonderfully in keeping with the ever growing needs of people for a creative, cultural life.

President Sihanouk Visits DPRK

His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea, on Apr. 5 arrived in Pyongyang by train for a visit to the DPRK.

DPRK President Kim Il Sung on Apr. 8 arranged a banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in Pyongyang in honor of President Sihanouk on a visit to the DPRK. **(See their banquet speeches on page 2)**

On the same day President Kim Il Sung and Secretary Kim Jong Il received gifts from President Sihanouk.

Secretary Kim Jong Il Guides Broadcasting Work

Secretary Kim Jong Il on Apr. 5 gave on-the-spot guidance to workers in the domains of communications and radio broadcasting.

He was accompanied by Kim Yong Chae, member of the WPK Central Committee and minister of posts and telecommunications, and other leading officials concerned.

Workers in the radio broadcasting sector have launched vigorous political propaganda and economic agitation work to firmly equip the party members and other working people with the Juche idea.

They are unfolding struggles to successfully carry out the 200-day campaign, while bending big efforts to consolidate the material and technical foundations of radio broadcasting by actively introducing the latest achievements of science and technology, in hearty response to the decisions of the 13th Plenary Meeting of the Sixth Central Committee of the party.

Acquainting himself with the actual conditions of radio broadcasting, Secretary Kim Jong Il saw round various broadcasting facilities and encouraged the workers in this field in their energetic efforts to carry through the letter and calls of the WPK Central Committee.

He set forth concrete directions in and ways of further improving and intensifying radio propaganda and consolidating the material and technical foundations of radio broadcasting in compliance with the requirements of the developing realities.

He put forward tasks facing the radio broadcasting domain in the 200-day campaign and expressed the expectation that the functionaries in the domains of radio broadcasting and communications would achieve remarkable successes by displaying creative ingenuity and devotion in the ongoing campaign.

DPRK Christians Support KCCC Declaration for Unification & Peace

The Central Committee of the Korean Christians Federation of the DPRK on Apr. 7 sent an appeal to the south Korean Christians in connection with the acts of some south Korean Christians insulting the declaration adopted on Feb. 29 at the 37th general meeting of the south Korean Council of Christian Churches.

The KCCC's declaration expressed firm support to the three principles of national reunification – independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

The appeal said that the "Declaration of Christian Churches on the Nation's Reunification and Peace" adopted at the general meeting is a "patriotic one for national salvation which reflects the powerful trend toward independence and democracy, peace and reunification sweeping south Korea."

It pointed out that some churchmen

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Presidential Greetings to Chinese Leaders

President Kim Il Sung of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea sent a message of greetings on Apr. 8 to Mr. Deng Xiaoping upon his reelection as Chairman of the Central Military Commission of the People's Republic of China.

The message says:

Our people are very pleased to note that the First Session of the Seventh National People's Congress is going on with success while the Chinese people are vigorously pushing ahead with the construction of socialist modernizations with Chinese characteristics after having achieved stability and unity of the country since the Third Plenary Meeting of the 11th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

I sincerely wish you fresh success in your responsible work for the development and prosperity of China and for the reunification of the whole country as well as good health and longevity.

I believe that fraternal friendship and militant unity established between the peoples and armies of Korea and China as a kindred one through the common struggle against imperialism and for independence, sovereignty and victory of the cause of socialism will further consolidate and develop with each passing day.

On the same day, President Kim Il Sung sent a message of greetings to Mr. Yang Shangkun and Mr. Wan Li upon their respective election as President of the People's Republic of China and Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the PRC.

The message says:

Your election to the high responsible posts of the state at the First Session of the Seventh National People's Congress is a clear expression of deep trust and respect of the Chinese people to you.

I take this opportunity of heartily wishing you new success in your future work to build a modernized socialist country with Chinese characteristics and unify the whole country.

I am convinced that the traditional fraternal relations of friendship and cooperation between the Korean and Chinese peoples firmly sealed through a prolonged revolutionary struggle for the realisation of the common aim and ideal will grow in scope and develop as the days go by.

Meanwhile, Premier Li Gun Mo of the Administration Council of the DPRK on Apr. 9 sent a message of greetings to Mr. Li Peng upon his appointment as Premier of the State Council at the First Session of the Seventh National People's Congress of the PRC.

The message wished him great success in his responsible work to accelerate the building of socialist modernisation of the country, unify the whole country and further consolidate the international position of the country.

Gen. Secy. Zhao On Sino-Korean Amity

General Secretary Zhao Ziyang of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China stressed that it is the established policy of the Chinese party and government to strengthen the friendship between the parties, countries and peoples of China and Korea, the KCNA reported on Apr. 10.

In a conversation with Hyon Jun Guk, director of the International Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, he said the relations between China and the DPRK are very good and close. The friendly relations of cooperation between China and Korea will continue to develop, he noted.

Earlier on Apr. 1, General Secretary Zhao Ziyang declared that strengthening of friendly relations with the WPK and the Korean people is the set policy of the CPC.

He made this remark in Zhongnanhai, Beijing, when he met with a delegation of a provincial committee of the WPK.

Pyongyang Raps US War Game Plan during Olympics

Rodong Sinmun, organ of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, on Apr. 10 denounced U.S. military threat and blackmail under the plea of "safe Olympic hosting."

Recalling that Commander of the U.S. Forces in Japan Davis, talking about "safe Olympic hosting" on Apr. 8, said that the naval and air forces of the U.S. in Japan would be furled into south Korea "any moment" and U.S. forces stationed in the Philippines might be dispatched, if necessary, a signed commentary of the paper said, "This is a fit of extreme war hysteria and a military threat and blackmail and an undisguised demonstration of strength the imperialists are apt to resort to on the eve of declaring a war against other country."

The paper went on to say, "This frenzied arms buildup suggests that the U.S. imperialists, while going ahead with the Team Spirit nuclear war test without an interruption, intend to invent a pretext, timing to coincide with the period of the Olympic Games, and, under that pretext, ignite an adventurous war of aggression against the north in the end."

Rodong Sinmun urged the U.S. to give up at once the arms buildup and war preparation against the north and withdraw U.S. troops and nuclear weapons from south Korea and areas around it.

N.Y. Forum Calls for US Pullout from S. Korea

A forum on disarmament on the Korean Peninsula was held in New York on Mar. 17 under the sponsorship of the U.S. Committee for New Korea Policy.

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DPRK Will Give Active Support to Patriotic Activity Of Kampuchean People

Speech of President Kim Il Sung

President Kim Il Sung of the DPRK arranged a banquet on Apr. 8 at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall in honour of His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, President of Democratic Kampuchea.

Follow excerpts from their speeches made at the banquet:

When April comes round every year, we look forward to the day of our happy return with you, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, a close friend and brother of ours.

I cannot help being deeply moved by the exceptional friendship and sincerity you have shown by visiting us to congratulate me on my birthday every year without forgetting us. I think it my happiness to have such a true friend as you.

Feeling in my heart your warm fraternal friendship towards us, I express my hearty thanks to you for your congratulations and best wishes.

Our relations of genuine fraternal friendship were naturally formed and have been consolidated and developed steadily in the current of our times which is heading for Chajusong. We believe that these relations will be carried forward with purity because of trust and noble fidelity that will never change in any storm and stress and will, with the passage of time, leave beautiful marks in the history of friendship between our two countries.

We have always respected you, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, as the true patriot and outstanding leader of the Kampuchean people.

Even in the long years of your political trials, you have unyieldingly fought for the freedom and liberation of the Kampuchean people under the unfurled banner of Chajusong, the banner of the war of resistance.

The Kampuchean question still remains an outstanding issue in the international political arena, and the people around the world hope that this question will be settled peacefully as soon as possible in the interests of the Kampuchean people.

Since you left our country towards the end of last year, you have worked tirelessly and energetically to find a fair political solution to the Kampuchean question.

Your extensive and flexible activity for the peaceful settlement of the Kampuchean question which involves many difficulties, enjoys widespread support and sympathy from the world opinion, and because of this the trust in and expectations from you are increasing at home and abroad.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, we have always respected and supported your independent stand with regard to the Kampuchean question. In future, too, we will give active support and encouragement to your patriotic activity to find a fair political solution to the Kampuchean question and to the just struggle of the Kampuchean people.

We are convinced that the day will certainly come when Kampuchea becomes a united, independent, peaceful, neutral and non-aligned sovereign country, and when you return in triumph to your homeland to embrace your beloved people in Kampuchea warmly.

Your current visit to our country will serve as an important occasion to deepen the fraternal, intimate relations and the feeling of trust between us and strengthen solidarity between the Korean and Kampuchean peoples.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you for the unremitting efforts you have been making in support of our people's struggle for socialist construction and for the independent, peaceful reunification of the country.

I hope you will spend pleasant and beneficial days in Pyongyang on this occasion, too.

August Name of DPRK President Will Shine For Ever in Human History

Speech of President Samdech Norodom Sihanouk

I will regard it as the highest glory and most pleasant duty always to come to Pyongyang, the most dignified capital of the DPRK, so beautiful and developed, to extend warmest glory to Your Excellency, the respected and great leader of the Korean people and the Korean nation, in the name of the Khmer people and government and head of state, on the occasion of your most glorious birthday.

It is the greatest happiness in my life that Your Excellency, the great leader, treats me kindly as your intimate friend, real brother and close anti-imperialist comrade-in-arms, fully supporting all the patriotic activities and struggle.

I will remember for life the matchlessly deep benevolence shown by Your Excellency, the great leader, for myself and my wife, my family and the several national liberation struggles of the Kampuchean people.

I have always cherished and will cherish for ever, in the future, too, boundless respect and reverence for Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung, Head of State of Korea and the great leader of the Korean nation.

The so prominent august name of Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung, the immortal sun, will shine for ever in gold letters not only in the history of Korea spanning thousands of years but also in human history.

Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung with brilliant intelligence and noble heroism waged from your early years the struggle to liberate the Korean people from feudal domination and foreign imperialist subjugation, won legendary victories twice and converted in a historically short span of time the socialist, popular and democratic country into a genuine paradise on earth where the Korean people and youth lead a dignified life full of boundless happiness and enjoy prosperity so envied by the world people.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has become a great invincible military power and a very developed modern country with all spheres of Juche-oriented socialist construction equipped with no less sophisticated technologies than other developed powers of the wolrd.

The world people, especially the people of Kampuchea and other Third World countries cherish invariably deep reverence for the great leader Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung, the brilliant sun teaching mankind the Juche idea and independence.

The authority and popularity of the great leader Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung are unprecedentedly high and great in this world.

The Kampuchean people, the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea and I deem it the highest honour to join the fraternal, valiant Korean people and the people of all countries of the world so deeply revering Your Excellency Marshal Kim Il Sung in extending warmest congratulations to Your Excellency great leader with deepest respect on the occasion of the most auspicious spring holiday of April, the 76th birthday of Your Excellency, the respected great leader of the Korean people and the Korean nation.

The Kampuchean people, the coalition government of Democratic Kampuchea and I extend warmest congratulations to Your Excellency, the respected great leader, and His Excellency Kim Jong Il, the dear leader, on the materialization of the great cause of Juche-oriented socialist construction and new great successes including the construction of most modern, magnificent factories on the occasion of the 76th anniversary of the most glorious birthday of Your Excellency great leader.

We solemnly reaffirm our full, firm support for the so wise and most patriotic policy of Your Excellency great leader for the independent reunification of the country.

Int'l Institute of Juche Idea Marks 10th Birthday

The International Institute of the Juche Idea marked the 10th anniversary of its founding on Apr. 9.

The institute is located in Tokyo, Japan and founded on Apr. 9, 1978.

In the early 1970s, study work on the Juche idea began to be developed on a continental and international scale beyond the national boundaries.

Since the first international conference was held in 1971 in Lebanon, more than seven international conferences were held until the Pyongyang International Conference was held in 1977.

In September 1976, an international symposium of science of the Juche idea was held in Madagascar, with the participation of delegations and delegates from more than 50 countries.

The declaration adopted at the symposium stressed the necessity to establish an organ of study of the Juche idea as early as possible, saying "It confirms the need to establish an international organization of study in the future, in order to exchange regularly and effectively the successes and experiences achieved by our activities and more successfully develop our common activities."

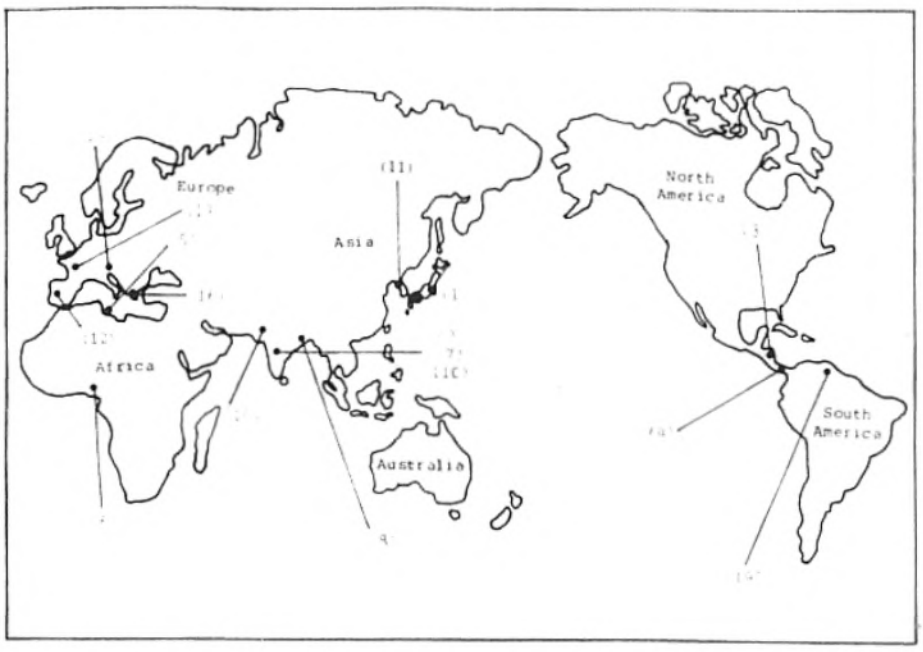
The Madagascar symposium was followed by the international seminar of the Juche idea in Pyongyang on Sep. 14-17, 1977 with 89 delegations and delegates from 73 countries and four international organizations.

The Pyongyang seminar unanimously decided to start a preparatory committee for an international organ of the Juche idea.

According to the decision, the organizing committee, which consisted of delegates from nine countries who were elected from eight countries and one international organ, was formed.

The organizing committee named the proposed organ the International Institute of the Juche Idea and defined its character as an international study group.

The international institute has held 15 international seminars since its foundation and is making efforts to disseminate studies on the Juche idea and improve their levels.



The following are major international seminars held after the founding of the International Institute of the Juche Idea. **(See the map)**

(1) The inaugural meeting of the International Institute of the Juche Idea (April 1978, Japan)

(2) An International Seminar on the Juche Idea (April 1979, India)

(3) A Seminar on the Juche Idea of the Universities in the Central American Region (June 1979, Honduras)

(4) A Latin American and Caribbean

(Continued on page 3)

Sixth "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" Held in Pyongyang

The Sixth "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" opened in Pyongyang on Apr. 7 with large attendance.

The festival which has been annually held in Pyongyang from 1982 under the slogan "For independence, friendship and peace!" is a traditional international art function and a significant friendship stage of world literary men and artists who love justice and peace and value friendship and unity.

The festival is participated in by many art troupes and acrobat groups consisting of excellent artistes including prize winners at international contests and famous actors and actresses from different countries of the five continents and overseas Korean artistes.

An opening ceremony was held at the February 8 House of Culture.

Present there were Li Gun Mo, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council; Chong Jun Gi, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice premier of the Administration Council, who is chairman of the preparatory committee of the festival; Kang Hui Won, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, chief secretary of the Pyongyang Municipal Party Committee and chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, and others and working people and literary men and artistes in the city.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and officials of foreign embassies in Pyongyang were also present.

In his opening address, Chang Chol, minister of culture and art, who is chairman of the organizational committee of the festival, said that the participation of a large number of art organizations and artistes from different countries the world over in the current festival was a noble manifestation of their common desire to open together a new world of art, free and peaceful, and a clear token of the unanimous support and sympathy of the world progressive peoples for the "April Spring Friendship Art Festival."

In his congratulatory speech, Premier Li Gun Mo said with pleasure that the "April Spring Friendship Art Festival" is developing every year on a larger scale at a higher level amid the deep concern and with active cooperation of the government, literary and art circles and people of broad segments in friendly foreign countries. He expressed the conviction that the current festival, too, would bear a good fruition as expected by the Korean people and the world peoples.

Heads of the Indian Art Troupe, the State Omsk Russian People's Chorus of the Soviet Union, the Chinese Qinghai Provincial Song and Dance Troupe and the Havana String Quartet of Cuba and a delegate of UNESCO took the floor.

The speakers paid high respects to President Kim Il Sung and wholeheartedly wished him good health and long life.

An opening art performance of the festival was given that day.

The organizational committee of the festival arranged a reception on Apr. 7 for foreign artistes participating in the festival.

Acrobats Give Premieres

Acrobats of different countries to the festival gave their premieres at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre and the People's Palace of Culture on the evening of Apr. 8.

Performed at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre were the GDR acrobatic group, Swedish acrobat and his party, the Thai magic group, the Pyongyang circus group, the Soviet acrobatic group and Hungarian acrobat and his party, and performers at the People's Palace of Culture were Bulgarian acrobat, Swiss acrobat and his party, acrobats of the song and dance ensemble of the Korean People's Army, the Chinese circus, the Czechoslovak magic group, the Cuban acrobatic group and Polish acrobat and his party.

Put on stage were colorful numbers including "air students," "plastic etude," "balancing act," "fantastic magic" and "technical magic", refined and perfect works they have long prepared.

They successfully performed difficult technical actions with dexterous and refined skill to delight the audience.

The audience was deeply moved to see Prapai Sang Thong Suk and her two brothers of the Thai magic group unfolding a streamer reading "Long Live the Great President Kim Il Sung!" and "fantastic magic."

Swedish acrobat Karl Otto, 67, left a deep impression on spectators by excellently presenting thrilling difficult action in his "walking on the rope" which requires courage and high skill.

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An opening ceremony of the Sixth "April Spring Friendship Art Festival"

A Jordanian musician

(Continued from page 2)

Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea (April 1980, Panama)

(5) A European and Mediterranean Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea (April 1980, Malta)

(6) A West African Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea and Education (June 1980, Nigeria)

(7) An Asian Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea (September 1980, India)

(8) An Asian and Middle Eastern Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea and Independent National Economy (April 1981, Bangladesh)

(9) A Seminar on the Juche Idea and Education of Universities in the Latin American Region (June 1981, Venezuela)

(10) An International Seminar on the Juche Idea (April 1982, India)

(11) A Seminar of Delegates for the Study of the Juche Idea from Various Countries of the World on "Let Us Advance under the Banner of Marxism-Leninism and the Juche Idea", a treatise of Secretary Kim Jong Il (September 1983, DPRK)

(12) An International Seminar on the Juche Idea (April 1984, Portugal)

(13) A Seminar on the Juche Idea of Universities in the European Region (October 1985, France)

(14) An International Seminar on the Juche Idea for Peace and Independence in the World (April 1986, Austria)

(15) An Asian and Middle Eastern Regional Seminar on the Juche Idea and the Development of National Education (April 1987, Pakistan)

(16) An International Seminar on the Juche Idea for Peace and Independence in the World (March 1988, Greece)

President Kim Il Sung's 76th Birthday Celebrated Here

A dinner party was given in Tokyo on the evening of Apr. 14, by the Central Standing Committee of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) to celebrate the 76th birthday of President Kim Il Sung with more than 700 attending from 43 countries including the Soviet Union, China, Cuba and Japan.

The guests included foreign ambassadors and diplomats in Japan and Japanese Diet members, professors and men of the press.

Meanwhile, Koreans in Japan including women wearing chima and chogori (national costume) gathered on the morning of the same day at the Korean Cultural Hall in Tokyo.

They held a central meeting and gave an art performance there.

"Team Spirit 88" Aggravates Tension In Korea As Large-Scale Amphibious Landing Exercise Conducted

The U.S.-south Korea joint war game "Team Spirit 88" on Mar. 29 climaxed when the amphibious landing exercise was conducted on the eastern coast near Pohang.

The largest joint war game in western countries is being conducted on a full scale throughout south Korea with the mobilization of more than 200,000 troops from both sides, while extremely aggravating tension on the Korean Peninsula.

The Korean People's Army and other reserve forces in the DPRK were put on full alert against the provocative nuclear war rehearsal.

The DPRK harshly accuses the Washington-Seoul joint war game of leading the situation in Korea to the brink of war.

The largest joint war game in the military history of the world, began early February, will continue until mid-May to stage various military maneuvers, simulating a nuclear war in Korea.

Here is a roundup of the major military drills so far conducted as part of "Team Spirit 88".

U.S. and south Korean marines storm ashore in a simulated attack on the DPRK shore in a joint U.S.-south Korea amphibious landing operation maneuver on the east coast on Mar. 29 morning. The pre-dawn landing operation is a part of the provocative "Team Spirit 88" war game.

River Crossing Exercise

A large-scale river crossing maneuver was conducted on Apr. 5 on the upper reaches of the South Han River in a simulated assault on the DPRK.

Artillery and machine gun fire pulverized the imaginery "enemy" positions, code-named "Orange Force", and attack helicopters unleashed several salvos of awesome fire power.

The river crossing exercise which looked like a real war to observers, highlighted the two-week long field training exercise of "Team Spirit 88".

The south Korea's English daily Korea Times reported that, "Armored personnel carriers, tanks and heavy trucks moved across the pontoon bridges which had been built by engineers."

"The process of modern warfare which unrolled in the valley of the South Han River roughly 110 km southwest of Seoul ground to a halt with the members of the "Blue Force" completely overrunning the die-hard enemy troops," it said.

Amphibious Landing Exercise

"Team Spirit 88" climaxed with a large-scale amphibious landing exercise conducted off Pohang on the southeast coast of south Korea on Mar. 29.

The amphibious assault operation culminated in charges of U.S. and south Korean marines towards the simulated DPRK shore emplacements under the cover of massive support fire from helicopters and battleships.

A contingent of the U.S. 7th Fleet was deployed for the assault landing.

Last year's amphibious landing drill involved some 14,000 marines and soldiers from the U.S. and south Korea along with the aircraft carrier Ranger, the cruisers Long Beach and Niagara Falls, the destroyers Francis, Hammond and Jowers and the oil tanker Lewis B. Tuller.

This year's exercise is about the same size. However, coverage of the exercises has not been allowed this year because many people were beginning to agree with DPRK's assertion that these exercises were nothing more than provocation which increases tensions on the peninsula.

Emergency Highway Landing Exercise

The U.S. and south Korean air forces conducted a large-scale joint "emergency" landing and take-off drill on a stretch of the Seoul-Pusan Expressway on Mar. 30.

A number of sophisticated aircraft were mobilized in the training operation including F-15 and F-16 jet fighter-bombers and B-52 long-range-flight bombers.

C-123 transport craft also took part in the military operation.

The American and south Korean ground crews conducted repair and maintenance of the fighter-bombers and refueled them for take-off in the training drill.

The objective of the landing and take-off operation, they say, consists of helping the "allied" air forces beef up their capabilities and maneuver-abilities to better cope with any sort of "emergency situation" on the Korean Peninsula.

Homeland Reserve Forces Join

Members of the Homeland Reserve Forces were also mobilized in the current "Team Spirit 88" war game.

The reserve soldiers were mobilized for field training exercises and for a "mopping-up operation" against the simulated "enemy".

They joined the American and south Korean regular troops in a pre-dawn river crossing operation southeast of Seoul on Apr. 2.

The reserve soldiers wore full combat dress and joined with the regular troops to attack simulated "enemy forces" under the cover of a tank squadron.

"Mobile Exercise of Striking Force"

The south Koreans carried out the "mobile exercise of the striking force" at a unit of the army for three days as part of the "Team Spirit 88" joint war game.

They mobilized even inhabitants in the area in the military exercise.

Ranks of the main units of the south Korean army on Mar. 24 started advancing to the areas of attack operations.

They completed the movement of the units by Mar. 26 and entered the full-dress attack operations on Mar. 28.

A U.S. B-52 bomber scrambles for a sortie in a joint U.S.-south Korea emergency landing and take-off exercise on a stretch of the Seoul-Pusan Expressway on Mar. 30.

Students Demonstrate Against Roh Regime

Police fired barrages of tear gas when about 600 students shouting "Over throw the dictatorship and join with workers" tried to march out of Seoul's Korea University on Apr. 12.

The demonstrating students regard the Roh regime as a "military dictatorship" just like the previous regime of Chun Doo Hwan.

Violent protests broke out on six campuses across south Korea last week, with students protesting against government suppression of the labor movement and calling for improved conditions for workers and the poor.

On Apr. 4, thousands of students hurled fire bombs and rocks at riot police in a violent clash near railway lines, which caused a passenger train to be halted. They were protesting against the government and the suppression of previous demonstrations.

Earlier, on Apr. 3, some 5,000 students and workers battled with police for three hours in the worst scenes of rioting since Roh Tae Woo took office in February.

An AFP report said, "Hurling stones and rocks at retreating police, the demonstrators chanted slogans calling for greater democracy and union recognition."

About 1,000 Seoul's university students throw rocks and fire bombs at tear gas firing riot police during hours long anti-government demonstration at Yonsei University on Apr. 2. (Reuter)

U.S. Replaces Phantoms with F-16s

The U.S. Forces south Korea command announced that the U.S. Air Force would begin to replace its F-4E Phantom II fighters in south Korea with 24 F-16 Fighting Falcons from October.

Twelve Phantom II fighters are now assigned respectively to the 36th and 497th Tactical Fighter Squadrons under the 51st TFW.

Under the planned replacement, the 36th TFS will receive 24 F-16C and D models beginning this October, increasing the total manpower assigned to south Korea by roughly 200 military personnel, according to Col. John C. Marshall, commander of the U.S. 52nd Tactical Fighter Wing.

Roh Deeply Involved in "Saemaul Scandal" (1)

—"Investigation Results," a Bid to Veil the Truth—

Roh Tae Woo has recently been trying to distance himself from the Saemaul scandal which has so far resulted in the arrest of Chun Kyung Hwan, younger brother of Chun Doo Hwan.

However, there are indications that Roh's involvement was greater than he is saying. When he was home minister he increased the "national fund", allowing it to be misappropriated to Saemaul headquarters.

Moreover, former home ministers who were directly involved in the scandal have now assumed important posts in Roh Tae Woo's regime.

Many well-informed observers are now saying that the investigation into the affair only revealed the tip of the iceberg.

* * *

The initial investigation results by the Prosecutor-General's office played down the actual amount of money which had been embezzled.

Prosecutor Kwang Won Il said that former Saemaul chairman, Chun Kyung Hwan, embezzled 6.5 billion won and evaded one billion won in taxes.

The prosecution alleged that Chun diverted as much as 2.55 billion won from the Saemaul Shinmun from 1982 until April last year; embezzled 690 million won from Saemaul headquarters; two billion won from the Saemaul national fund; and 350 million won from the Saemaul fund for morning soccer clubs.

The money was kept in 28 accounts at banks and trust funds under false names and had been used for Chun's "personal purposes." He purchased a large building for eight billion won, spent enormous amounts on a reclamation project in Yongjong-do and constructed a welfare facility which was run by his wife.

Scale of Corruption Understated

On Apr. 1, Kim Myong Yun, acting president of the opposition Democratic Reunification Party said, "They are fabricating a corruption case of several billion won despite indications that it was a much larger swindle possibly amounting to some 100 billion won."

He drew parallels between the investigation into the Saemaul affair and the cover-up in the investigation into the torture death of Park Chong Chol which occurred last year.

The investigation has only focused on Chun Kyung Hwan and has avoided scrutinizing politicians inside the Roh regime who might have been involved.

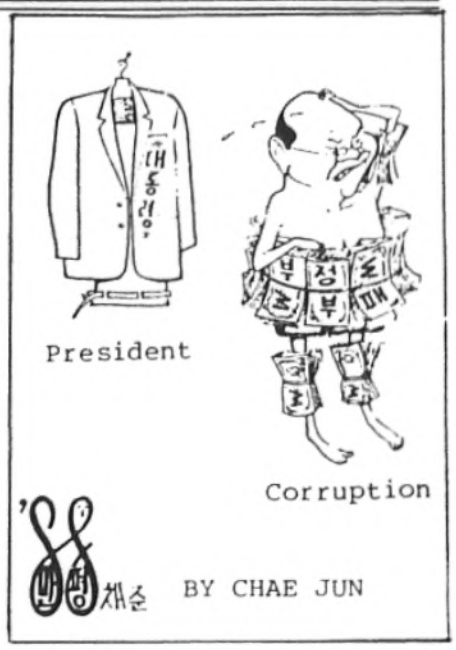
Some lawyers joined with opposition parties in criticizing the prosecutions handling of the investigation. They claimed that the prosecution wasted time in starting the investigation and did not search the houses of Chun and his associates. (Dong-A Ilbo, Mar. 30)

Saemaul headquarters was a front the Chun Doo Hwan regime used to collect political funds and "Every ministry of the government had been involved with it (the headquarters), little by little, including the education, culture, sports and transport ministries along with the Seoul City government. (Chosun Ilbo Mar. 30)

Roh Doubled Saemaul Budget

The financial scandal involving family of Chun Doo Hwan is difficult to unravel because of the position of "absolute power" which Chun Doo Hwan was in.

For instance, the "national aid fund" which amounts to some 46 billion won and has been allocated to Saemaul headquarters over the past seven years has been the auditing responsibility of successive home ministers. One of whom was Roh Tae Woo.



During Roh's term in office as home minister from April 1982-July 1983 he doubled the "budget for Saemaul headquarters.

(To be continued)

U.S. Senators Urge Roh to Fulfil Promise

One hundred U.S. legislators expressed disappointment on Apr. 4 over south Korea's Feb. 26 partial release of political prisoners and urged Roh Tae Woo to fulfil his "election campaign promise" of a complete amnesty for hundreds of south Koreans still detained on political charges, an AFP report from Washington said.

"We are most concerned over reports that as many as 1,000 persons remain in prison for politically related offenses," Senator Christopher Dodd said in a letter signed by 31 other Senators and delivered on Apr. 4 to south Korea's embassy in Washington, according to AFP.

"While we welcome the Feb. 26 amnesty and the reported release of 125 political prisoners, we believe that many persons who have neither advocated nor engaged in violence remain in custody," the Senator was quoted by AFP.

S. Korea's Labor Struggle Gaining Momentum

Recently in south Korea, the workers' struggles seem to spread more widely in connection with the coming general election, students' struggles and other political factors.

On Apr. 1 in Koje Island, South Kyongsang Province, some 10 thousand workers of Daewoo Shipbuilding Company demanded a big raise in their wages and went on a strike.

Because of the strike, the operation of the company has been completely suspended.

As of Apr. 3, it was still going on.

And in the Hyudai group companies, including Hyundai Engine Co. and Hyundai Heavy Industry, 300 workers staged a strike which began with an all-night sit-in at the company protesting the oppression of the autonomous labor union.

On Mar. 18, workers of the Hyundai Engine Co. went on a sit-in demonstration in front of a police box protesting against the arrest of five workers at a meeting held on Mar. 17.

Workers' struggles are getting more and more active.

This year, the cases of workers' struggles for higher wages or against the suppression of the labor unions reached 116 by the end of February.

This is 2.8 times last year's 42. (Seoul Shinmun, Mar. 17)

On the other hand, along with the workers' struggles, joint struggle of workers and students are spreading widely.

On Apr. 3, a rally to protest against the oppression of labor unions and to demand the release of arrested workers was held at an open-air theater of Seoul's Yonsei University, with 6,000 people including workers, students and citizens, participating in it.

On Mar. 20, university students and workers of 10 labor unions including the Seoul Labor Movement Union held a rally to demand a stop to suppression of labor unions.

They condemned cruel suppression of labor unions by the authorities and staged a street demonstration.

A distinctive feature of the latest labor movement is that since the labor disputes of last summer, Democratic Labor Union Federations have been organized widely in the country.

The Seoul Labor Union Movement Federation, which takes leading part in the movement, was founded on Nov. 1.

This group said, "We are endeavoring to build vertical, regional and horizontal trade union alliances and to organize a new national labor union center." (Founding Declaration)

Moreover, it attaches importance to the education of labor union activists, the development of propaganda work aimed at citizens and the strengthening of the solidarity of all the progressive organizations and forces as its main tasks.

The struggle for higher wages in this spring is the first stage in the development of the labor union movement as the consciousness of the workers has been remarkably raised since last summer.

(To be continued)

Students Accuse S. Korean Red Cross of Refusing to Accept DPRK Letters

The Seoul Regional Consultative Council of Student Representatives issued a statement on Apr. 9 to accuse the south Korean Red Cross of having refused to receive the letters of the Student Committee and the president of Kim Il Sung University supporting the proposal of the General Student Council of Seoul National University to convene talks of student representatives from north and south Korea.

"The refusal of the south Korean Red Cross (to accept letters from students of north Korea's university) made us suspect its will to national reunification," the statement said.

In its open questions to the south Korean Red Cross and the government on Apr. 9, the student council urged them to clarify whether they would accept the reply from the north or not and to make public a special proposal for reunification to the nation.

16 Opposition Bodies Form Alliance for Election

The Catholic Council of Farmers and 15 other opposition organizations on Apr. 9 formed a Democratic Alliance for Election Campaign against the ruling Democratic Justice Party.

A statement was issued at the inaugural rally, expressing their determination to defeat the DJP through an anti-dictatorship struggle for democracy in the national assembly elections in April.

They adopted a seven-point joint programme demanding guarantee of the people's right to existence and the abolition of the "Law on Assembly and Demonstration" and decided to kick off a joint struggle to probe into all scandals involving Chun Doo Hwan's family and Roh Tae Woo including the "Ilhae Fund" scandal.

Society to Honor Park Chong Chol to Be Formed

Bereaved families of Park Chong Chol and Lee Han Yul and opposition figures on Apr. 6 formed a preparatory committee for the Society to Honor the Memory of Park Chong Chol at a Christian hall in Seoul and issued a statement against the Roh regime.

The statement harshly accused the dictatorial regime of murdering Park Chong Chol by brutal torture and said that it would demand compensation for the government.

Park, a student of Seoul National University, who joined in anti-government demonstrations, was tortured to death at a Seoul police station on Jan. 14, 1987.

Suprapartisan Japanese Call for Withdrawal of "Sanctions" on DPRK

On Apr. 12, 200 Japanese gathered at the No. 1 Dietmen's Hall of the House of Representatives, who were concerned over Japan-DPRK relations and violations of the fundamental human rights of Korean residents in Japan in connection with the "sanctions" imposed on the DPRK by the Japanese government, traceable to the "KAL" jetliner incident.

These Japanese were representatives of political, business and academic circles, the press, lawyers and cultural leaders, including Vice Chairman Ono Akira of the Socialist Party of Japan, and of women's organizations and grass roots movement groups.

The meeting was organized at the call of 10 representatives of major political parties and organizations. Among them were Kuno Chuji, Liberal Democratic member of the House of Representatives and chairman of the Dietmen's League for the Promotion of Japan-DPRK Friendship; Tani Yoichi, Liberal Democratic member of the House of Representatives and chairman of the Japan-DPRK Trade Society; Utsunomiya Tokuma, independent member of the House of Councilors; and Suzuki Jiro, professor emeritus at Tokyo Metropolitan University.

The meeting was presided over by Kato Toshio, general secretary of the Japan-DPRK Peoples' Conference.

Kurokawa Takeshi, chairman of Sohyo (the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan) made a speech on behalf of the promoters of the meeting.

He was followed by Yasui Yoshinori, chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Korean Affairs of the Socialist Party of Japan and member of the House of Representatives; Shiode Keisuke, Clean Government member of the House of Councilors; Den Hideo, advisor to the Social Democratic Federation and member of the House of Councilors; Kitazawa Yoshihiro, lawyer; Aikawa Riichiro, director of the Japan-DPRK Trade Society; Hirose Hidekichi, general secretary of the Dietmen's League for Promotion of Japan-DPRK Friendship and member of the House of Representatives; Morikawa Kinju, lawyer; Tatara Jun, actor; and Yoshimatsu Shigeru, general secretary of the National Conference to Support Resident Korean Political Prisoners in South Korea.

The speakers said;

The "KAL" jetliner incident was masterminded by those who wanted to obstruct the reunification of the Korean Peninsula, and who did not want detente in the peninsula.

The U.S., Japan and south Korea assert that the incident was a "terrorist act of the north." However, it is the DPRK that has consistently taken measures for detente and peaceful reunification.

On the "ground" of the "confession" of a young woman (Mayumi), they insist that the "incident was committed by the north." The credibility of their allegation is doubted in the light of counter-evidences produced by the DPRK and Chongryun.

Nevertheless, the Japanese government took measures to impose "sanctions" on the DPRK at the request of the U.S. and south Korea. These are unfair measures and should be withdrawn immediately.

On the other hand, after the "KAL" jetliner incident occurred, cases of harassment of the Korean students and nationals in Japan, Chongryun organizations and Korean schools occurred one after another. These are shameful acts to the Japanese.

The Japanese government should take appropriate measures to prevent the recurrence of such cases.

Japanese mass media uncritically reported the announcements of south Korea's Agency for National Security Planning in the same way as they had done the announcements of the Japanese imperial headquarters during the war.

So far many resident Korean political prisoners have been arrested in south Korea on charges of "spying". What is common to their cases and the "KAL" jetliner incident is the fact that no material evidence but the "confession" has been produced.

The "KAL" jetliner incident should be regarded also as a problem of the Japanese themselves and the campaign demanding withdrawal of the "sanctions" should be developed throughout Japan.

Akiyama Sakiko, vice chairperson of the Japan Women's Council read a petition to Prime Minister Takeshita Noboru, which was unanimously adopted by the meeting.

The petition noted that the Japanese government should immediately withdraw the "sanctions" and permit the entry into Japan of the DPRK representatives who are going to participate in the Asian Table Tennis Championship to be held from May 15 in Niigata, from the standpoint of promotion of the international sports exchange.

Kajitani Yoshihisa said in his concluding remark:

The Japanese government unilaterally concluded the "south Korea-Japan treaty" with south Korea in 1965, without taking steps to settle its past misconduct in the whole of Korea, and has since taken a hostile policy toward the DPRK.

The "sanctions" taken by the Japanese government are an indication of its hostile policy toward it.

After the meeting, four representatives of the meeting, including Yasui Yoshinori and Kajitani Yoshihisa, visited the Chief Cabinet Secretary and handed the petition to him.

About 200 Japanese participated in a meeting on Apr. 12 held in Tokyo which demanded the immediate withdrawal of the "sanctions" imposed on the DPRK.

Chongryun Tokyo Reps.

In connection with the "KAL" jetliner incident, the Japanese government imposed "sanctions" on the DPRK in January and has since taken a series of measures against it.

Chongryun representatives from various parts of Japan made petitions to the Japanese government.

On Apr. 8 representatives of the Chongryun Tokyo Headquarters including Vice Chairman Ha Ki Ok of the Tokyo headquarters, visited the Foreign Ministry of Japan and demanded withdrawal of the "sanctions."

At the same time, they urged the Japanese government to take measures to respect the human rights of Korean nationals in Japan, in view of their harassment which has continued since the "KAL" jetliner incident.

April Art Festival in Pyongyang

(Continued from page 3)

Prize Winners at Int'l Competitions Give Performances

Prize winners at international competitions and famous actors and actresses who are participating in the festival gave performances on Apr. 11 at the Mansudae Art Theatre.

Performing there were prize winners at international contests and People's Actors and Actresses and famous soloists, instrumentalists and dancers from China, the GDR, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia, France, Peru and the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun) who were warmly acclaimed by the audience on the current festival stage.

They sang passionately in diverse artistic presentation songs on the Korean people's national pride and honour in leading a happy and worthy life in the prosperous country, holding in high esteem President Kim Il Sung who founded the Juche idea and brightly lights the road of the era of Chajusong, and their unanimous desire to reunify the country independently and peacefully.

The colorful program of actors and actresses from different countries included stage pieces of thick national tints which well depicted the traditional customs and noble spiritual world of their peoples and their struggle to build a new life.

The artistes delighted the audience with refined pieces which had been well received at international and domestic contests and in performance tours abroad and Korean songs.

Meanwhile, a concert was given at the Moranbong Theatre.

Nikolai Alexeyev, Soviet conductor who won prizes at several international competitions including the Karijan International Conductors' Contest, charmingly conducted the orchestral music "Bumper Harvest on Chongsan Fields" and Chaikovsky's symphony No. 4 played by the State Symphony Orchestra of Korea.

Maltese soloist Miriam Gauc, well known to Europe, sang emotionally in a clear and soft tone "Kimjongilia", the song on the flower carrying ardent wishes of the world revolutionary people.

A well-known Austrian musician and conductor who was a prize winner at an international contest, conducted the Korean orchestral music "the Mungyong Pass" and Beethoven's symphony No. 7 played by the State Symphony Orchestra of Korea.

The performers were applauded by the audience for their artistic talent and technique.

The State Omsk Russian People's Chorus of the Soviet Union

The Pippalo music group of Finland.

Choson Univ. Holds Entrance Ceremony

Choson University held its entrance ceremony on Apr. 10 this year and about 800 people assembled in the university's auditorium for the event. About 430 new students enrolled at the university this year.

Chairman Han Duk Su of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongryun), who is concurrently the honorary president of the university, made a congratulatory speech in which he emphasized that freshmen should always remember to devote themselves to learning because this is the highest level educational institute available for Korean residents and is the only training base for supplying the future leaders of Chongryun and the Korean movement in Japan.

In addition to the chairman and other Chongryun officials, the ceremony was attended by a lot of undergraduates and the parents of freshmen.

Pae Sun Ok, 18, a freshman in the Foreign Languages Faculty, said "I had been thinking about entering a Japanese university and has passed the entrance exam for a university in Osaka Prefecture. However, by attending a meeting of Koreans attending Japanese schools, visiting Choson University with my father and through my contacts with other Koreans, I became aware of many Chongryun activities and gradually realized that Choson University was the university for me. After all, it's only here that I can speak Korean and study with other Koreans of my own age."

Her mother added that she and her husband had tried to persuade Sun Ok to join Choson University because they were sure that she would be able to develop a sense of national pride and identity and learn the Korean language at the university.

Every year, of the 400 or so students from all over Japan who matriculate at the university about 10-20 students are from Japanese high schools. They learn about Chongryun, the lives of Korean residents in Japan and the DPRK and they learn to speak the Korean language as they live collectively with the other students.

Choson University, the only overseas university of the DPRK, plays an important role in supplying teachers and specialists in every field as well as providing a new generation of Chongryun officials. The students receive a high quality national education second to none.

Some 430 freshmen attended an enrollment ceremony held in the auditorium of the university on Apr. 10. The auditorium was full of freshmen and their parents.

Short Tour Guide to DPRK (5)

Moran Hill

Many Korean people visit Moran Hill in spring. The hill is one of the most popular sightseeing spots in Pyongyang.

Moran Hill (Peony Blossom Hill), which rises from the banks of the River Taedong in the capital of the DPRK, derives its name from its resemblance to the beautiful peony blossom.

The hill has been a favorite recreation spot with Pyongyangites for a long time, particularly in spring when it is carpeted with a variety of spring flowers.

However, recently it has also become popular with foreign tourists, who have been coming to the DPRK in increasingly large numbers. As well as admiring the beautiful scenery of Moran Hill, foreign tourists have also shown interests in visiting the many historical remains to be found there. These include Ulmil, Choesung, Chongryu and Pubyok pavilions and the Chilsong Gate.

The hill is densely forested with over 10,000 pine trees and 7,000 fir trees. The hill is home to over 20 varieties of coniferous and over 70 varieties of deciduous trees, as well as numerous shrubs and plants. Apricot, pear and peach trees can be found along with other fruit trees and azalea, magnolia and other flowering perennials dot the hillside.

The once slum-ridden Kyongsang Valley has been cleared and the area enhanced by the addition of a youth park, an open-air theatre, a children's park, a large fountain and an ornamental garden. In addition, the man-made Moran and Chongryu falls with tumble over the precipice of nearby Chongryu Cliff make the area a delightful place to relax and breath in the atmosphere of the DPRK's capital.

Moran Hill has a lot to offer the visitor and should be included on every sightseeing itinerary.

The Ulmil Pavilion was built in the period of the Koguryo Dynasty (from the early first century to 668 A.D.) to defend Pyongyang, the capital city of the dynasty from the enemy as an outer wall of Pyongyang Castle. Now it is a sightseeing spot and a place of historical interest which shows how bravely Korean people in those days fought against the enemy.

NEWS DISPATCH FROM PYONGYANG

DPRK Dels. to For. Countries (Mar. 14 – Mar. 31)

MAR. 14

* A delegation of the Korean Central News Agency headed by its Deputy General Director Pak Hyon Gyu to China.

MAR. 17

* A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Secretary of its central committee Choe Tae Bok to Mali.
* A government metal delegation headed by Choe Man Hyon, minister of metal industry, to the Soviet Union.
* A delegation of the Union of Agricultural Working People headed by Pak Su Dong, chairman of its central committee, to Poland and Syria.
* A delegation of the DPRK Foreign Ministry headed by Li In Gyu, vice minister of foreign affairs, to the GDR.
* A Korean trade union delegation headed by Kim Guk Sam, vice chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions, to Cuba.
* A delegation of the Trade Union of Public Employees of Korea headed by Li Chang Bok, vice chairman of its central committee, to Bulgaria.

MAR. 24

* A party workers delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea led by Vice Director of a department of the WPK Central Committee Pak Song Bom to Algeria.
* A delegation of the General Bureau of Diplomatic Corps Affairs led by General Director Han Bong Gu to the Soviet Union.
* A government trade delegation led by Vice Minister of Foreign Trade Song Hui Chol to the Soviet Union and Bulgaria.
* A trade union delegation led by Vice Chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions Sim Hong Gyu to Ethiopia.
* A delegation of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea led by Vice Chairman of its central committee Kim Jin Bom to Poland.
* A delegation of Sariwon City led by Chairman of the Sariwon City People's Committee Li Jae Yun to Pakistan.

MAR. 23

* A delegation of the South Pyongan Provincial Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by So Yun Sok, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the WPK and chief secretary of the South Pyongan Provincial Party Committee, to China.

MAR. 31

* A DPRK government delegation headed by Hong Song Nam, vice premier of the Administration Council, to Romania.
* A delegation of party workers of social science of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Ryu Jae Yong, vice director of a department of the WPK Central Committee, to the Soviet Union.
* A delegation of the DPRK parliamentary group headed by its Vice Chairman Son Song Pil, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, to Guatemara.
* A delegation of the magazine Kukje Saenghwal (international affair) led by its Director Yun Gun Su to the Soviet Union.

(KCNA)

Rodong Sinmun on Int'l Affairs

S. African Racists' Terrorism

South African commandos on Mar. 28 intruded into Gaborone, the capital of Botswana, and killed innocent people and burnt houses.

This armed attack of the south African commandos on Botswana is a brutal terrorism and a grave violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Botswana.

As an African frontline state, Botwana, together with other member states, is actively supporting the South African people's anti-racist struggle.

The Korean people vehemently denounce the racists' brutality.

Now the African frontline states are countering the Botha clique's moves with united force.

Seized with deadly uneasiness and fear, the racists are making desperate efforts to maintain their rule at any cost.

Their barbarism has revealed once again to the world that the Botha clique is a group of truculent racists and brutal terrorists. **(Apr. 2)**

Israelis to Be Made to Pay for Blood

The Israeli occupiers proclaimed the West Bank of the Jordan River and Gaza Strip a "military zone" for three days, banning traffic, on the occasion of the "land day" celebrated by the Palestinians.

This is a fascist frenzy of the Zionists not to grant the Palestinians even the elementary democratic freedom and rights to existence and a heinous criminal act to annex the occupied region for good and all.

Crying that "the enemy of Israel must be beaten off," the chieftain of the Zionists Shamir has mobilized thousands of policemen and even four motorized divisions in the brutal suppression and massacre of Palestinians. This shows that the Israeli aggressors are, indeed, diabolical human butchers bereft of reason and a heinous enemy of the peace-loving people of the world who value justice and progress.

Peace and stability in the Middle East are unthinkable and the people in the occupied area can never be free from misfortune and sufferings with such atrocious aggressor and fascist murderer as Israel left alone.

The United States, though vociferous about "a fair solution" of the Mideast problem, is in fact, zealously siding with the Israeli aggressors.

It is not by chance that the current outrage of Israel closely followed Shamir's trip to the United States.

With no crafty artifice and brutal repression can the U.S. imperialists and the Israeli aggressors break the strong will of the Palestinian people who rose up in a just struggle.

The fascist brutalities of Israel must be stopped at once and the legitimate right of the Palestinian people restored.

The Israeli aggressors will certainly be made to pay for the blood. **(Apr. 3)**

US Arms Buildup in Panama

The U.S. imperialists who have already drawn huge armed forces additionally into Panama, announced that they would hurl more than 1,300 troops from Apr. 5. The escalation of the U.S. forces buildup tells that U.S. imperialists' armed invasion of Panama is imminent now.

What the U.S. imperialists seek in this is to revise the Canal Treaty which stipulates transference of the sovereignty over the Panama Canal to Panama by the end of the present century, and to keep the Canal under their control and perpetuate the presence of the U.S. forces in Panama, a foothold of their aggression and intervention against Central and South Americas.

With this aim in mind, they are making desperate attempts at stifling Panama, while resorting to political and diplomatic pressures, economic blockade and military threats against this small country.

Their military threats and intervention against Panama are a barbarian brigandism of introducing the jungle law into international relations. With no amount of threat and blackmail can they bring the Panamanian people to their knees. **(Apr. 5)**

EDITORIAL

Roh and Chun: Birds of a Feather

The Democratic Justice Party, under the leadership of Roh Tae Woo, is hoping to take control of parliament in voting due to take place on Apr. 26 after the "victory" of the presidential election last year.

However, Roh's electoral victory on Dec. 16 last year was not without controversy. Many south Koreans demanded that the election be declared null and void because of reported irregularities and claims that Roh had resorted to fraudulent means to secure his victory.

Roh had everything going for him prior to the election. He had the backing of the security and police agencies, he had the media under his control and he had enormous financial resources. Yet despite this he only received 37 percent of the votes cast.

Ever since the June uprising last year south Korea's ruling elite have been working very hard trying to create an image for Roh which would be acceptable to an electorate frustrated and embarrassed by decades of military rule.

This has been continuing since the presidential election. Roh has been trying to distance himself from the old regime led by General Chun Doo Hwan and has been cultivating the image of a "pro-democratic reformer" with promises that he will usher in a new era of democracy and reconciliation.

However, many south Koreans remain skeptical and maintain that no fundamental changes have taken place. For many, Roh is still the "bald man with a wig." Opposition claims that Roh Tae Woo's regime represents a continuation of military rule. After all, very little has changed except the face of the president. The military continues to be conspicuously pervasive in the south Korean power structure.

Roh's reluctance to make a break with the past was clearly illustrated by his Feb. 19 cabinet shake-up, in which he retained seven ministers from the Chun government.

His so-called reforms have been purely cosmetic and can be viewed as part of his image enhancement programme. The political amnesty which he announced on Feb. 26 left most political prisoners in jail and human rights activists saying that political freedom was still a long way off.

On Mar. 18 the DJP published its list of candidates for the national assembly elections. Surprisingly, 25 of them were from the military, double the number at the last national assembly elections held during the Chun era.

Among the 25 military men hoping to take a seat in parliament is Chong Ho Yong, who played a key role in the murder of over 2,000 people in Kwangju in 1980.

This is clear evidence that the military will continue to be firmly in control in south Korea.

Roh himself is a retired two-star general who played a significant role in the coup which brought Chun Doo Hwan to power. He sent a regiment of frontline troops under his command to Seoul to reinforce Chun's military rebellion. In addition, he was chief of the Defence Security Command in 1980 when army troops were used to quash the Kwangju uprising.

Having used military force for political purposes in the past it would be naive to assume that this is something he would not consider doing again in the future.

If Roh wants to prove that he is different from Chun, he must carry out genuine democratic reforms and deliver the goods.

But what he has done so far indicates that there is very little to choose between Roh and Chun. After all, they are birds of a feather.

(Continued from page 1)

of south Korea, called "leaders of ordinary believers", framed up the "joint measure committee of the ordinary believers of all religious orders" against the declaration of the KCCC, branding it as an assertion sympathizing with the north's "strategy for communizing south Korea."

The appeal criticized these moves as treacherous and anti-reunification acts of blindly slandering and betraying the fellow countrymen, not telling right from wrong.

Moreover, it revealed the fact that the "joint measure committee" is a subsidized organization manipulated by Washington and Seoul behind the scene.

The appeal called for efforts to realize the convocation of a north-south joint conference and for active assistance to the proposal of students to hold north-south students talks.

Earlier on Apr. 6, the KCF Central Committee sent a letter to the Christian organizations in all countries of the world in connection with the moves in the south Korean Christian circles on the eve of the "World Christian Consultative Meeting for Peace on the Korean Peninsula" to be held in Inchon, south Korea.

The letter said:

The south Korean Council of Christian Churches held its 37th general meeting and adopted a "Declaration of Christian Churches on the Nation's Reunification and Peace", which expresses firm support to the three principles of national reunification – independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity – and decided to recommend to the authorities of the north and the south to create an atmosphere of trust on the Korean Peninsula, to withdraw all nuclear weapons, to replace the Armistice Agreement concluded between the DPRK and the United States with a peace agreement, to adopt a non-aggression declaration between the north and the south of Korea and to abolish all diplomatic agreements and treaties contrary to national interests, and declared that this would be submitted to the "World Christian Consultative Meeting for Peace on the Korean Peninsula" slated at Inchon at the end of April.

This is a voice of apostle which fully accords with our Christian creed of justice and peace, love and unity.

But, the chairman of the "Methodist Presbyterian Church" of south Korea and other 200 or more Christians called "leaders of ordinary believers" on Mar. 26 framed up a so-called "joint measure committee of the ordinary believers of all religious orders" and declared that it would launch activities against the declaration of the south Korean Council of Christian Churches, branding it as an "assertion of some pastors" sympathizing with the north's "strategy for communizing south Korea."

What is more serious is the fact that the behaviour of some believers called "leaders of ordinary believers" in south Korea is manipulated behind the scene by the south Korean authorities.

The south Korean authorities, afraid of the declaration of the south Korean Council of Christian Churches being diffused as part of the world Christian movement in case the declaration is recognized at the "World Christian Consultative Meeting for Peace on the Korean Peninsula", are resorting to base offensive against innovative believers in a bid to prevent it.

The Central Committee of the Korean Christians Federation expresses the hope that the Christian organizations of all countries of the world who are deeply interested in peace on the Korean Peninsula and its peaceful reunification, remaining faithful to their noble mission, will not overlook the south Korean authorities' wanton interference in the south Korean Christian church circles.

We also express the belief that the Christian organizations of the world will extend firm solidarity with the righteous activities of the south Korean Council of Christian Churches for national reunification and peace and take measures to sternly condemn the backstage manipulators for encouraging the "leaders of ordinary believers".

(Continued from page 1)

Speaking at the forum, Stanley Faulkner, vice chairman of the International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea, pointed out that the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea put forward realistic proposals to remove the danger of nuclear war and made consistent effort for their realisation.

Drawing attention to the fact that more than 40,000 U.S. troops and quantities of nuclear weapons have been deployed in south Korea, he said that the situation on the Korean Peninsula has become extremely strained due to the Team Spirit joint maneuvers.

The attendants of the forum decided to send a letter to each member of both houses of U.S. Congress, urging them to begin dialogue with the DPRK instead of pursuing confrontation, withdraw the U.S. forces and nuclear weapons from south Korea and desist from obstructing peace and reunification of Korea.

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